GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

The Palace,

Bangalore.

24th August 1918.

In reply to your confidential letter of the 21st Instant, forwarding Mr. Benham's letter of the 19th idem stating that the Marimallappa's school Committee were not inclined to modify their decision to retire Mr. Venkatakrishniah at the end of August 1918, I am directed to inform you that His Highness, who has given the matter his careful consideration, is of opinion that it would be inexpedient to take further action to force the Committee to accept our suggestion as they may have good reasons for not extending Mr. Venkatakrishniah's services as Head Master of the Institution even by a couple of months and that after all it was only a suggestion which the Committee cannot be compelled to accept if they have reasonable objection to its adoption. It was His Highness's intention to grant him an honorarium or an allowance for the prominent part he is taking in the scheme for promoting social and civic activities in Mysore, but that idea had to be abandoned as you find him thoroughly unsuited for that kind of work owing to his old age and other causes.

The Committee have in recognition of his good service rendered to the School for a number of years sanctioned a pension of Rs.50/- per mensem and perhaps for want of funds could not grant him a higher pension. Unless the Government can come to their aid by raising the grant allotted to the School by Rs.50/-, it is impossible to expect the Committee to comply with Mr. Venkatakrishniah's request.

Enhancing the Government grant to a private Institution for the especial purpose of enhancing the pension of its retiring Head Master will not only be contrary to the rules regulating the grants-in-aid but will be a unique procedure unsupported by a single precedent and His Highness the Yuvaraja feels, under the

circumstances, bound to ascertain the views of His Highness the Maharaja before final orders are passed. Meanwhile, Mr. Venkatakrishniah, I am to state, may kindly be informed that his prayer for increased pension is under consideration.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya, K.C.I.E.,

Dewan of Mysore,

Bangalore.

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